

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MICHAEL COLLIINS ET AL. Docket No.: 00-682
Serial No.: Examiner :
Filed : Art Unit :
For : COMPRESSOR PROTECTION MODULE AND
SYSTEM AND METHOD INCORPORATING SAME

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the prior art documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,017,192, Patented January 25, 2000, By Clack et al., for SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SCREW COMPRESSORS. This reference relates to a compressor controller providing integrated monitoring, control, and alarm capabilities. The compressor controller receives a run signal from a rack controller. Upon receipt of the run signal, the compressor controller monitors startup conditions to determine whether it is safe to start the compressor. If so, the compressor controller applies power to the compressor and determines whether the compressor is running

properly. Once the compressor is running properly, the compressor controller continues to monitor the operation of the compressor. If the compressor controller detects a fault condition during the startup or operation of the compressor, the compressor controller provides an alarm signal and shuts down the compressor if necessary. The compressor controller provides maximum protection for the compressor by monitoring a plurality of relevant conditions and by shutting the compressor down when necessary. The compressor controller also maximizes the compressor's availability by evaluating the monitored conditions to determine whether the compressor can continue to run or be restarted despite a fault condition.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case,
it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit
Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL COLLINS ET AL.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
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Date: October 19, 2001

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on October 19, 2001
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